

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed April 6, 2007 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 1, 3, 10, 17 and 19 have been amended. No new matter has been added. The Applicants respectfully submit the following for consideration.

Objection to the Oath/Declaration

The declaration was objected to because it contained non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations. The Applicants have attached an initialed copy of the declaration and respectfully request the objection be withdrawn.

Objections to the Drawings

FIGURE 8 of the drawings was objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because it did not include the reference sign 800 mentioned in the description. FIGURE 8 has been corrected to fix the informality. The Applicants respectfully request the objection be withdrawn.

Objection to the Specification

The disclosure was objected to because of the informality of not including the reference character 900 depicted in the drawings. The specification has been amended to correct the informality. The Applicants respectfully request the objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Screen Dumps of Microsoft Outlook ("MS Outlook"). Claims 6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Screen Dumps of Microsoft Outlook ("MS Outlook") in view of March et al. ("March").

With regard to Claim 10, the Office Action states that "MS Outlook teaches a system for representing items comprising a display configured to display items and a pinned items application that is configured to perform the following actions, including pinning an item selected by a user and instructing the display to display the pinned item such that the pinned item is distinguishable and prioritized higher than related non-pinned items (figs. 1-3; users "pin" the items that are important to them by flagging it (fig. 1 depicts flagging items such as item 210 of fig. 2) and sort by flag status via double clicking on the flag icon 200 of the sort bar, the pinned items are displayed at the top of their list and are visually distinguishable from non pinned items; moreover, a special icon such as the flag icon is placed with the item showing that it is "pinned")." Claim 10 has been amended to further define the invention.

As amended, Claim 10 recites in part "automatically instructing the display to display the pinned item before non-pinned items such that the pinned item is distinguishable and prioritized higher than related non-pinned items." Among other differences, MS outlook does not teach automatically displaying a pinned item before a non-pinned item.

As recited by the Office Action, in order display flagged items before non-flagged items within MS Outlook, the user double clicks "on the flag icon 200 of the sort bar, the pinned items are displayed at the top of their list and are visually distinguishable from non pinned items." In contrast

to the present claim, ordering the items within MS Outlook is a manual procedure performed by a user. Since MS Outlook does not teach automatically displaying a pinned item before non-pinned items, Claim 10 is proposed to be allowable. Claims 11-16 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim. Claims 1 and 17 have been similarly amended.

Claim 1, as amended recites in part “automatically displaying the pinned item before non-pinned items such that the pinned item is distinguishable from and prioritized higher than related non-pinned items.” Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable for at least the reasons presented above. Claims 2-9 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim.

As amended, Claim 17 recites in part “automatically displaying the pinned item before non-pinned items such that the pinned item is distinguishable and prioritized higher than related non-pinned items.” Claim 17 is proposed to be allowable for at least the reasons presented above. Claims 18-20 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim.

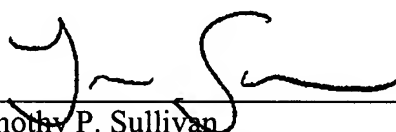
With regard to claim 12, the Office Action states that “MS Outlook teaches a system for representing items wherein the pinned item application is configured to create a copy of the item selected to pin to be used as the pinned item (figs. 5-6; fig. 6 depicts a copy of the item selected to be pinned through the use of the copy and paste feature of fig. 5).” In response, the Applicants have amended Claim 12 to more clearly define the fact that the copy is automatically created. In contrast, MS Outlook teaches manual copying. Since MS Outlook does not teach automatically copying the item, Claim 12 is proposed to be allowable. Dependent Claims 19 and 3 have been similarly amended and are proposed to be allowable for at least the same reason.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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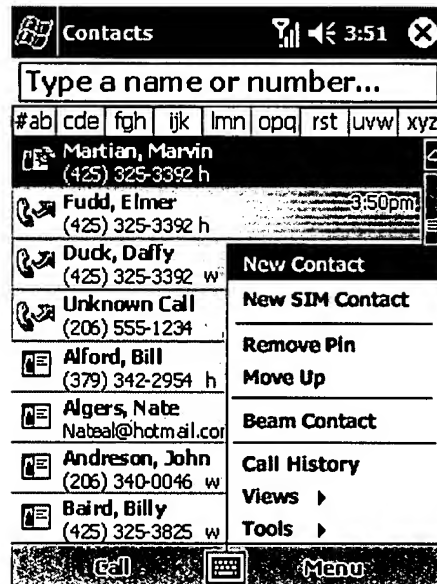
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1/1

800 ~



810 ~

815 ~

Fig.8